

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Yoshihiro OHSHIMA et al.

Application No.: NEW U.S. PATENT APPLN.

Filed: September 26, 2003

Docket No.: 117348

For: IMAGE PROCESSING SYSTEM AND METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. Relevance of the Japanese-language references is discussed in the present specification. U.S. Patent Application Publication Nos. US 2002/0196464 A1, US 2003/0007173 A1 and US 2002/0196455 A1 are the English-language counterparts of Japanese Patent Publication Nos. 2003-5343, 2003-5931 and 2003-8870, respectively.
- 3. English-language Abstracts of the Japanese-language references are attached hereto.

NEW U.S. PATENT APPLICATION

4. A computer-generated English translation of the following Japanese Patent Publications have been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([http://www.jpo.go.jp]), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy.

Respectfully submitted,


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Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 117348		APPLICATION NO. NEW U.S. PATENT APPLN.	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT(S) Yoshihiro OHSHIMA et al.			
				FILING DATE September 26, 2003		GROUP	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME		CLASS	SUB CLASS
		US 2002/0196464 A1	12/2002	M. Kodama et al.			
		US 2003/0007173 A1	1/2003	Y. Nishide et al.			
		US 2002/0196455	12/2002	R. Ishizuka et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY		CLASS	SUB CLASS
		JP-A-2003-5343 (Abst./Trans.)	1/2003	Japan			
		JP-A-2003-5931 (Abst./Trans.)	1/2003	Japan			
		JP-A-2003-8870 (Abst./Trans.)	1/2003	Japan			
		JP-A-11-154068 (Abst./Trans.)	6/1999	Japan			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
EXAMINER						DATE CONSIDERED	
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

Date: September 26, 2003